

# WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: **FINANCE**

DATE: **APRIL 7, 2010**

**Committee Members Present:**

Supervisors      Stec  
                         Belden  
                         Bentley  
                         Taylor  
                         VanNess  
                         Kenny  
                         Merlino  
                         Conover

**Others Present:**

Paul Dusek, Commissioner of  
Administrative & Fiscal Services  
Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board  
Kevin Geraghty, Budget Officer  
Supervisor Champagne  
Supervisor Loeb  
Supervisor Pitkin  
Supervisor Sokol  
Supervisor Strainer  
Supervisor Thomas  
Frank O'Keefe, Treasurer  
Richard Murphy, Deputy Commissioner of  
Fiscal Services  
Bud York, Sheriff  
Shane Ross, Chief Deputy  
William Lamy, DPW Superintendent  
Frank Morehouse, Superintendent of Buildings  
Don Lehman, *The Post Star*  
Thom Randall, *Adirondack Journal*  
Nicole Livingston, Deputy Clerk

**Committee Member Absent:**

Supervisor      Goodspeed

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Mr. Stec called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 10:15 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. VanNess and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2010 Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the Finance Agenda were provided to the Committee members, and a copy of same is on file with the minutes.

Commencing the Agenda review, Mr. Stec stated Item 1 was a request for Transfer of Funds which was attached for Committee approval. He noted that Supervisory Committee approval had been obtained as necessary.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously to approve Item 1 as outlined above. The necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec advised Item 2 was a referral from the County Facilities Committee, requesting to amend Resolution No. 560 of 2009 to correct the Capital Project No. to H315.9550 280 - Abatement and Demolition of Annex Building #10.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Kenny and carried unanimously to approve Item 2 as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec asserted Items 3A through C were referrals from the Health Services Committee. Item 3A, he said, was referred from the Health Services requesting to amend the 2010 County budget to decrease estimated revenues in the amount of \$18,750 to reflect the termination of the EISEP contract with OFA which ends on March 31, 2010. He noted it was not necessary to reduce appropriations as the employee associated with the program retired in January and the salary had not been included in the 2010 Budget.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Item 3A as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec added that Items 3B and C were referred from Westmount Health Facility. Item 3B, he stated, was a request to amend the 2010 County budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$4,000 to amend the Unrestricted Fund Balance for professional services relating to the February 25, 2010 Department of Health violation. Mr. Stec stated Item 3C was a request to amend the 2010 County budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$7,000 to amend the Unrestricted Fund Balance for payment of Civil Money Penalty resulting from the February 25, 2010 Department of Health violation.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to approve Items 3B and C as outlined above, and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec apprised Items 4A through C were referrals from the Planning & Community Development Committee. Item 4A, he said, was a request to establish Capital Project No. H312.9550 280 - First Wilderness 2008 Building the Future, in the amount of \$268,270, to administer the grant award under the LWRP (Local Waterfront Revitalization Program) with the source of funding to be grants from local governments in the amount of \$258,270 and an Interfund transfer from A.8029 470 in the amount of \$10,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Item 4A as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec reported that Item 4B was a request to establish Capital Project No. H313.9550 280 - First Wilderness 2009 Hamlet Enhancement, in the amount of

\$419,056, to administer the grant award under the LWRP with the source of funding to be grants from local governments in the amount of \$410,006 and an Interfund transfer from A.8029 470 in the amount of \$9,050. Mr. Stec added Item 4C was a request to establish Capital Project No. H314.9550 280 - First Wilderness Scenic Byway, in the amount of \$59,026, to administer the grant award under the Scenic Byway Program with the source of funding to be grants from local governments in the amount of \$59,026.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Items 4B and C as outlined above, and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec advised Items 5A through 5C were referrals from the Public Safety Committee, Sheriff & Communications. He stated that Item 5A was a request to amend the 2010 County budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$62,884 to reflect receipt of various grant funds.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Item 5A as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec added that Item 5B was a request to amend the 2010 County budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$686 to reflect receipt of insurance recovery check from Old Dominion Insurance Company for damage to a patrol vehicle.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously to approve Item 5B as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec asserted Item 5C was a request for a new contract with New England Police Vehicle Leasing Corporation for the lease of two patrol motorcycles, commencing May 1, 2010 and terminating April 30, 2011 for a one time payment of \$7,800.

Mr. Belden asked about the cost to the County and Shane Ross, Chief Deputy, explained that the motorcycles were paid entirely through a grant he had received and there was no cost to the County.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve Item 5C as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec remarked Items 6A through E were referrals from the Public Works Committee. Items 6A through D, he added, were referred from the Airport. He reported Item 6A was a request to establish Capital Project No. H308.9550 280 - Airport Painting & Pavement Markings, in the amount of \$35,300, to provide construction and engineering services for Airport painting/pavement markings, as required by the FAA by Fall of 2010. He noted the source of funding shall be 95% FAA Federal Grant in the amount of \$33,535; 2.5% NYS DOT Grant in the amount of \$883; and 2.5% County funding in the amount of \$883 to be transferred from Transfers-Capital Projects A.9950 910.

Mr. Stec apprised Item 6B was a request to establish Capital Project No. H309.9550 280 - Runway 1 RSA Wetland Mitigation Site Monitoring, in the amount of \$34,391, to provide four year wetland site monitoring services, as required, on a parcel of improved wetlands in the Warren/Washington IDA. He added the source of funding shall be 95% FAA Federal Grant in the amount of \$32,672; 2.5% NYS DOT Grant in the amount of \$860; and 2.5% County funding in the amount of \$860 to be transferred from Transfers-Capital Projects A.9950 910.

Mr. Stec added Item 6C was a request to establish Capital Project No. H310.9550 280 - Airport Fire Truck & Snow Blower, in the amount of \$1,230,000, to purchase a fire truck and snow blower. He said the source of funding shall be 95% FAA Federal Grant in the amount of \$1,168,500; 2.5% NYS DOT Grant in the amount of \$30,750; and 2.5% County funding in the amount of \$30,750 to be short term borrowing, subject to recommendation of the Treasurer.

Mr. Belden asked William Lamy, DPW Superintendent, if they were going to sell the two pieces of equipment they currently had and apply the proceeds toward the local match and Mr. Lamy replied affirmatively. Mr. Belden opined that the sale of the equipment should generate more than enough funding to cover the local match.

Mr. Stec expounded Item 6D was a request to establish Capital Project No. H311.9550 280 - PAPI Installation Runway 12-30 Design, in the amount of \$28,000, to design the installation of PAPI's for Runway 12-30. He stated the source of funding shall be 95% FAA Federal Grant in the amount of \$26,600; 2.5% NYS DOT Grant in the amount of \$700; and 2.5% County funding in the amount of \$700 to be transferred from Transfers-Capital Projects A.9950 910.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve Items 6A through D as outlined above, and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec advised Item 6E was a request for Mr. Lamy to address the committee concerning the State instituting a construction funding freeze which impacts highway project funding.

Mr. Lamy reported that the cash flow issue that the State was facing had caught up to the construction industry and he had received information through the County Highway Superintendents Association that the State Budget impasse had put a stop to all State payments for engineering and consulting work, as well as all projects that were not funded by the Federal Economic Stimulus. He added that all local transportation work would be delayed until the Legislature and the Governor agreed on a 2010-2011 Budget or emergency funding bills that included appropriations for CHIPS (Consolidated Highway Improvement Projects) or Marchiselli money was passed. According to the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT), he continued, the resulting impact would be that the reimbursement process would be slowed. Mr. Lamy expounded that the bonds that had been secured for County projects were based on what they believed was a reasonable time frame for the reimbursement process to replace the funds back into the County coffers; therefore, he said, the County would be borrowing money for longer periods of time than was originally anticipated. Mr. Lamy advised he had reviewed what projects could be delayed, as well as which projects would be impacted the most, those being the Corinth Road Project and the Woolen Bride replacement in Warrensburg. He noted that the Alder Brook Bridge project in the Town of Chester needed to move forward and bids would be received on Thursday for that. Mr. Lamy summarized there were complications associated with stopping construction, complications with incurring costs to contractors that had already mobilized and complications with pushing bridge projects into the next Federal fiscal year in that the funds could be revoked. He concluded that he would keep the Committee apprised of any additional information that he received.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Lamy apprised that the Association had recommended that each municipality contact their local Legislator and he provided a draft letter to Paul Dusek, Commissioner of Administrative & Fiscal Services, that would be appropriate to be signed by the Chairman of the Board and sent to elected officials. Mr. Pitkin asked if there was any language included in the present construction contracts to address these types of issues and Mr. Dusek replied typically the County could get out of a construction contract, but the problem was it would be very costly. Mr. Dusek suggested that a resolution be prepared and forwarded to all State and Federal representatives to apprise them of the precarious situation of the County, the financial implications relating to delaying funding for these projects and urge them to take immediate action to rectify this.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to authorize that a resolution be prepared and forwarded to all State and Federal representatives to apprise them of the precarious situation of the County, the financial

implications relating to delaying State funding for County construction projects and urge them to take immediate action to rectify this. The necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Stec announced Item 7 was the response to the Budget Analysis Report from the County Treasurer as prepared by JoAnn McKinstry, Deputy Commissioner of Administrative & Fiscal Services, which was attached for the Committee members to review.

Mr. Stec reported Item 8 was a request from Mr. Dusek regarding the issue of whether to hire or use County workers to move voting machines from the Municipal Center Building to the new Human Services Building.

Mr. Dusek explained that there was approximately \$600,000 worth of voting machinery that had to be moved from this building into the new building and if something happened to one of those pieces of machinery, it was \$1,000 per machine for the deductible under the County's own insurance policy. He noted that the Board of Elections had expressed concern regarding warranties and if something happened to the machines. He compared the cost to hiring a moving company and the estimate was for the movers was inexpensive; however, he added, if the County required them to insure the machines, it would cost an additional \$5,000.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously to authorize County workers to move voting machines from the Municipal Center Building to the new Human Services Building. The necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Concluding the Agenda review, Mr. Stec advised one item presented to the Personnel Committee required Finance Committee action, which was to authorize the settlement of accrued vacation time for the former Personnel Officer, with the source of funding to be from the Contingent Fund. The necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. VanNess and seconded by Mr. Bentley, Mr. Stec adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Livingston, Deputy Clerk